

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) In a system that includes a computer device and a printing device, a method for providing debit print job accounting, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to render a print job;

spooling data of the print job to a spooler of one of:

(i) a client computer device; and

(ii) a print server;

using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and an account of the user, wherein the print subsystem component is one of:

(i) the spooler; and

(ii) a print processor;

using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job;

using the print subsystem component and the parsed data to determine  
~~determining a cost for consumables to render the that would be used in rendering the~~  
~~particular print job, wherein the cost for consumables is determined prior to despooling~~  
~~print data of the print job to the printing device;~~

using the print subsystem component to determine ~~determining~~ an amount of  
available funds in a the user's account; and

if the amount of available funds exceeds the cost for consumables, ~~charging using~~  
the print subsystem component to debit the cost of the print job from ~~to the user's~~  
account and rendering the print job at the printing device.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 3, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user further comprising comprises receiving information from the user to perform said authenticating authentication~~the user and authorization to access the user's account.~~

5. (original) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the information received includes a password.

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 6~~1~~, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises~~passing the user information comprises at least one of:~~

(i) ~~embedding the user and the account information in the spooled data;~~

(i) ~~using an application program interface call to pass the user and account information;~~

(ii) ~~using a spool directory to pass the user and account information; or~~

(iii) ~~using a registry to pass the user and account information.~~

8. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 31, wherein if the amount of available funds does not exceed the cost for consumables, denying a spooling of the print data to the printing device.

9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 91, wherein said using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job comprises:

determining sheet assembly requirements for rendering the print job;

determining the resolution to be used to render the print job;

determining whether binding materials are to be used for the print job;

determining the type of print to render the print job;

determining ~~the~~ sheet assembly characteristics of the print job; and

determining a type of paper and ink to be used ~~the number of pages to render the~~ print job.

11. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF pathnames.

12. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein ~~the step for~~ said determining the number of pages includes identifying the number of page boundaries for the print job.

13. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein ~~the step for~~ said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF page file offset links.

14. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

saving print instructions and device context in EMF; and

initiating spooling of journaled data to the spooler.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

rendering print instruction and device context data into printer ready data; and

initiating spooling of printer ready data to the spooler.

17. (cancelled)

18. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

saving print instructions and device context in EMF;

spooling EMF data to a client spooler;

despooling EMF data to a client print processor; and

initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

19. (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:  
writing print instructions to a printer driver;  
rendering print instructions and device context data into printer ready data;  
spooling printer ready data to a client spooler;  
despooling printer ready data to a client print processor; and  
initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

21 – 28 (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) A computer program product embodied in a computer readable medium for implementing within a computer system a method for providing debit print job accounting, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps of:

receiving a request from a user to render a print job;

spooling data of the print job to a spooler of one of:

(i) a client computer device; and

(ii) a print server;

using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and an account of the user, wherein the print subsystem component is one of:

(i) the spooler; and

(ii) a print processor;

using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job;

using the print subsystem component and the parsed data to determine  
~~determining~~ a cost for consumables to render the ~~that would be used in rendering~~  
~~the particular print job, wherein the cost for consumables is determined~~ prior to  
despooling print data of the print job to the printing device;

using the print subsystem component to determine ~~determining~~ an amount  
of available funds in ~~a~~ the user's account; and

if the amount of available funds exceeds the cost for consumables,  
~~charging using the print subsystem component to debit the cost of the print job~~  
~~from~~ ~~to~~ the user's account and rendering the print job at the printing device.

30. (cancelled)

31. (cancelled)

32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) A computer program product as recited in claim ~~32~~29,  
wherein the computer program code means is further comprised of executable code for  
implementing the steps of:

determining sheet assembly requirements for rendering the print job;

determining the resolution to be used to render the print job;

determining whether binding materials are to be used for the print job;

determining the type of print to render the print job;

determining ~~the~~ sheet assembly characteristics of the print job; and

determining a type of paper and ink to be used ~~the number of pages~~ to render the  
print job.

34. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises embedding the user and account information in the spooled data.

35. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using an application program interface call to pass the user and account information.

36. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a spool directory to pass the user and account information.

37. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a registry to pass the user and account information.

38. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein if the amount of available funds does not exceed the cost for consumables, denying a spooling of the print data to the printing device.

39. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF pathnames.



40. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes identifying the number of page boundaries for the print job.

41. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF page file offset links.

42. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:  
writing print instructions to a printer driver;  
saving print instructions and device context in EMF; and  
initiating spooling of journaled data to the spooler.

43. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:  
writing print instructions to a printer driver;  
rendering print instruction and device context data into printer ready data; and  
initiating spooling of printer ready data to the spooler.

44. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:  
writing print instructions to a printer driver;  
saving print instructions and device context in EMF;  
spooling EMF data to a client spooler;  
despooling EMF data to a client print processor; and  
initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

45. (new) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:  
writing print instructions to a printer driver;  
rendering print instructions and device context data into printer ready data;  
spooling printer ready data to a client spooler;  
despooling printer ready data to a client print processor; and  
initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

46. (new) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using an application program interface call to pass the user and account information.

47. (new) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a spool directory to pass the user and account information.

48. (new) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a registry to pass the user and account information.